

2010 Congressional Art Competition

Congressional Art Competition Guidelines

General Guidelines – Applies to all entries

The competition is open to high school students enrolled in grades 9 through 12 only attending a school in the 16th Congressional District. Home school students residing in our district are also eligible. If you have questions whether a student is eligible, please call or email our office.

In order to allow artwork to hang in the Cannon Tunnel of the U.S. Capitol, the following restrictions are enforced:

Artwork must conform to the restrictions:

- Artwork must be two-dimensional
- Each piece can be **no larger** than 28"x28"x4" (28 inches high, 28 inches wide, and 4 inches deep) including the frame. (See framing guidelines below.) Artwork cannot weigh more than 15 lbs.
- Each entry must be original in concept, design, and execution and may not violate any U.S. copyright laws. Any entry which has been reproduced from an existing photo (not the student's own), painting, graphic, advertisement, or any other work produced by another person is a violation of the competition rules and **will not** be accepted.
- Artwork will hang in the Capitol for the **entire year** of the exhibition and **cannot** be returned to students earlier. Students, therefore, should submit artwork they will not need for other purposes.
- Artwork categories are as follows:
 - Paintings: oil, acrylics, watercolor, etc.
 - Drawings: pastels, colored pencil, pencil, charcoal, ink, markers
 - Collage: must be two dimensional
 - Prints: lithographs, silkscreen, block prints
 - Mixed Media: use of more than two mediums such as pencil, ink, etc.
 - Computer generated art
 - Photography

The final decision regarding the suitability of all artwork for the 2010 Congressional Art Competition exhibition in the Capitol will be made by a panel of qualified persons chaired by the Architect of the Capitol. Artwork must adhere to the policy of the House Office Building Commission. In accordance with this policy, exhibits depicting subjects of contemporary political controversy or a sensationalistic or gruesome nature are not allowed. It is necessary that all artwork be reviewed by the panel chaired by the Architect of the Capitol and any portion not in consonance with the Commission's policy will be omitted from the exhibit.

Framing Guidelines – Only the winning piece must be framed. Framing arrangements can be made after a winning piece is selected. The winner will have approximately 7 – 10 days to complete framing after a winning piece is selected. Hardship cases will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

- Frames should be kept as simple and sturdy as possible. Metal frames are recommended. No "snap on" frames with glass are to be used.
- All artwork must be protected by Plexiglas or glass. Plexiglas is preferred. If glass is used, cover the entire surface completely with masking tape. All works, including frame, should be no larger than 28 inches high, 28 inches wide, and 4 inches deep, and 15 lbs in weight. This includes the outside dimensions of the frame. Please double check size before submitting.
- Matting can enhance or detract from a work of art and should be carefully prepared.
- Use sturdy picture hangers on the back of the frame. Two sturdy eye hooks should be attached at the right and the left sides of the back of the work for hanging in order to prevent the work from leaning forward or hanging unevenly. **Do not put wire between the hooks** for hanging, these will be added when the artwork is hung in the Capitol.
- Do not attach labels, ribbon, etc. to the front of the piece or underneath the glass or Plexiglas.
- If the artwork is abstract in design, please indicate on the backside which side is "up" with arrows.

Contact for the 16th District Congressional Art Competition

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